Work Task D1: Vegetation Type Mapping

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Purpose: Establish the baseline acreage for riparian and marsh communities

at LCR MSCP initiation.

Conservation Measures: MRM1 and MRM2

Long-term Goal: In FY05, BIO-WEST, a Reclamation contractor, will complete the

aerial image processing and type map the vegetation within LCR MSCP project boundaries. Periodic updates of the vegetation type maps will be conducted under the system monitoring requirement

of the LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Plan.

FY05 Estimate: FY05 costs total \$327,000. Image processing will be concluded in

FY05. Vegetation type maps will be created from this imagery. Task order to BIO-WEST will be approximately \$302,000. Reclamation staff costs for administering this contract will be

approximately \$25,000.

Project Description: Riparian and marsh vegetation has been characterized using a

classification scheme initially designed by Anderson and Ohmart in 1976. Periodic updates have been conducted along the lower Colorado River to help monitor changes in the riparian ecosystem.

The most recent type maps were derived by using imagery acquired in 1997. These acre figures were used throughout the LCR MSCP planning process. This project will provide updated conditions at the initiation of LCR MSCP implementation.

Accomplishment

to date: Entered into a contract with BIO-WEST to acquire digital aerial

photography and initiate triangulation/orthorectification, and color

balancing/image mosaicing. FY04 costs were \$400,000.